

KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS



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FEATURING:

- ▶ County Estimates
- ▶ Cold Storage
- ▶ Dairy Products
- ▶ Slaughter
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- ▶ Chicken & Eggs

CHRISTIAN, UNION AND LOGAN TOP CORN PRODUCING COUNTIES

Christian County was the top producing corn county in **Kentucky**. For 2003 there were 10,612,800 bushels produced from 73,700 acres harvested with a yield of 144 bushels per acre. Union County was second in production with 10,466,700 bushels, followed by Logan County with 9,240,000 bushels. Other counties with seven million bushels or more of production were Henderson, Graves and Daviess. Cumberland was the highest yielding county in Kentucky with 183 bushels per acre. Kentucky's corn

production for 2003 was estimated at 148.0 million bushels, a 39 percent increase from 2002. Excellent growing conditions combined with a long favorable fall allowed corn plenty of time to reach full maturity. Yields averaged 137 bushels per acre, up 35 bushels from 2002 and the second highest yield on record. Acreage harvested for grain averaged 1.08 million acres, 4 percent more than 2002. **U.S.** corn for grain production was estimated at 10.1 billion bushels, up 12 percent from the 9.01 billion bushels produced in 2002.

DAVIESS, HENDERSON AND GRAVES LEAD STATE IN SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

Daviess County was the leading **Kentucky** soybean producing county with 3,621,200 bushels produced. This was from 82,300 acres harvested for beans with a yield of 44 bushels per acre. Henderson County was second with 3,304,600 bushels and Graves was third with 2,763,600 bushels. There were 7 more counties producing over 2,000,000 bushels. Hart was the highest yielding soybean county with 50 bushels per acre. Soybean production for the State was estimated at 53.3 million bushels in 2003, up

28 percent from the small 2002 crop and the second largest crop on record. Yield was estimated at 43.0 bushels per acre, up 10.0 bushels from 2002 and a record high yield. Adequate to surplus moisture throughout the growing season resulted in good to excellent yielding soybeans. Harvested acreage at 1.24 million acres was down 20,000 acres from the 1.26 million acres harvested in 2002. **U.S.** soybean production totaled 2.42 billion bushels, 12 percent below 2002.

CHRISTIAN, LOGAN AND TODD WERE TOP THREE WHEAT COUNTIES

Christian County produced 2,881,000 bushels of winter wheat and was the number one wheat producing county in **Kentucky**. Yield averaged 67 bushels per acre and harvested acreage totaled 43,000 acres. Logan was second with 2,449,500 bushels while Todd was third with 1,690,000 bushels. Other counties producing more than one million bushels were Simpson, Calloway, Graves and Hickman. Warren was the top yield producing county with 73 bushels

per acre. Kentucky's winter wheat production for 2003 totaled 20.5 million bushels, up 14 percent from 2002. Yield at 62 bushels per acre was up 9 bushels from 2002. The 2003 crop was good with adequate to surplus moisture available for filling grain heads. Harvesting this year was slowed by persistent rains. Harvested acreage at 330,000 acres was down 10,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** winter wheat production was estimated at 1.71 billion bushels, up 49 percent from the 2002 crop.

BARREN COUNTY CONTINUED AS CATTLE CAPITAL OF KENTUCKY

Barren County continued to have the largest number of cattle in **Kentucky** with 83,000 head on January 1, 2004. Warren was second with 66,000 head while Pulaski was third with 64,000 head. Kentucky ranked 13th in the nation with 2.32 million head, 5 percent below the previous year. All cattle and calves in the **U.S.** totaled 94.9 million head, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Texas had the largest cattle herd with 13.9 million head. Kansas, Nebraska, California and Oklahoma had cattle inventories of 5.00 million head or more on January 1, 2004.

Barren County also had the largest beef cow inventory in **Kentucky** with 36,000 head on January 1, 2004. Other top counties included Warren with 32,000 head, Pulaski with 31,600 head, Madison with 25,500 head and Bourbon with 24,000 head. Kentucky ranked 8th in the U.S. with 1.13 million head, the largest beef cow herd east of the Mississippi River. There were 32.9 million beef cows in the **U.S.**, down less than 1 percent from January 1, 2003. Texas had 5.48 million beef cows, the largest inventory in the U.S. Other leading states included Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska and South Dakota.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on February 29, 2004, were below last year's levels for poultry and red meat.

All U. S. Warehouse Stocks				Feb 04 as % of	
Commodity	Feb 28, 2003	Jan 31, 2004	Feb 29, 2004	Feb 2003	Jan 2004
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	672,785	534,901	543,583	81	102
Turkey	492,737	420,466	476,855	97	113
Ducks	5,135	1,484	1,328	26	89
Total Frozen Poultry	1,170,657	956,851	1,021,766	87	107
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	441,855	434,354	436,398	99	100
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	38,278	63,095	57,035	149	90
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	519,713	510,514	483,609	93	95
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	978,249	960,112	934,743	96	97

1/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 2/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

U.S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, JANUARY 2004

PRODUCT	January 2003	December 2003 1/	January 2004	Percent of Jan. Dec. 2003 2003	
(000) Pounds			Percent		
BUTTER	141,440	114,390	131,884	93	115
CHEESE					
American Types 2/	319,517	319,392	320,304	100	100
Mozzarella	232,355	248,086	244,158	105	98
All Other Types 3/	165,891	186,724	170,713	103	91
Total	717,763	754,202	735,175	102	97
(000) Gallons			Percent		
FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream (Hard)	67,337	54,399	59,521	88	109
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	5,719	4,043	4,410	77	109
MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream Mix	39,574	32,249	34,581	87	107
Yogurt Mix	3,364	2,378	2,594	77	109

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. 3/ Includes Swiss, cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION IN 2003

Red meat production for the United States totaled 46.8 billion pounds in 2003, 1.2 percent below last year's record high. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 46.6 billion pounds. On farm production totaled 136 million pounds.

Beef production, at 26.3 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous record high set last year. Veal production totaled 201.1 million pounds, down 2 percent from last year, and set a new record low. Pork production, at 20.0 billion pounds, was 2 percent above last year, setting a new record high. Lamb and mutton production totaled 203.4 million pounds, falling 9 percent below the previous record low set a year ago.

Commercial cattle slaughter during 2003 totaled 35.5 million head, down 1 percent from 2002, with federal inspection comprising 98.3 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,231 pounds, down 20 pounds from a year ago. Steers comprised 49.2 percent of the total federally inspected slaughter, heifers 31.7 percent, dairy cows 8 percent, other cows 9.1 percent, and bulls 1.8 percent.

Commercial calf slaughter totaled 1.0 million head, down 4 percent from a year ago with 97.5 percent

under federal inspection. The average live weight was 318 pounds, up 6 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 100.9 million head, up 1 percent from 2002, with 98.8 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year, at 266 pounds. Barrows and gilts comprised 96.5 percent of the total federally inspected slaughter.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, totaled 2.98 million head, was down 9 percent from 2002 with 94.2 percent comprised by federal inspection. The average live weight was up 1 pound from 2002 to 134 pounds.

Red meat production in Kentucky during 2003 totaled 471.6 million pounds, up 5 percent from the 2002 level. Beef production totaled 16.8 million pounds live weight, 16 percent above the 2002 level. Pork production, at 616 million pounds live weight was 5 percent above the previous year. Lamb and mutton production, at 1.43 million pounds live weight, was 8 percent above the 2002 total. During 2003, animals were slaughtered at 59 plants in Kentucky, of which 23 were under federal inspection.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.98 million head on March 1, 2004. The inventory was up 4 percent from the 10.55 million head on March 1, 2003 but 5 percent below March 1, 2002.

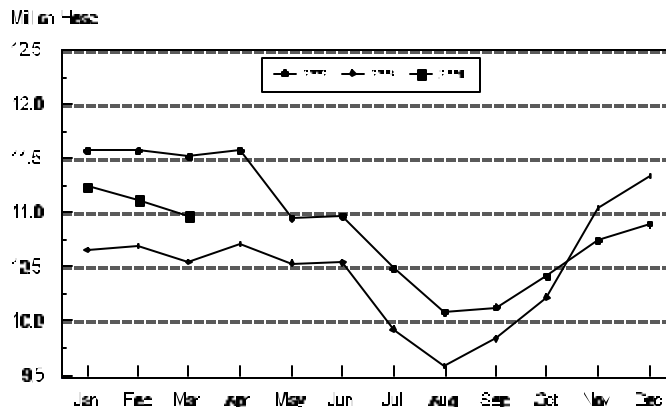
Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.61 million, 2 percent below 2003 and 11 percent below 2002. Net placements were 1.54 million. During

February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 319,000, 600-699 pounds were 351,000, 700-799 pounds were 548,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 392,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.69 million, 2 percent below 2003 and 6 percent below 2002.

Other disappearance totaled 69,000 during February, 3 percent below 2003 but 10 percent above 2002.

United States Cattle on Feed
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for February 2004 totaled 115 million pounds, down 4 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent from last month. Average number of milk cows on farms was 112,000, down 8,000 head from last year and unchanged from last month. Milk per cow averaged 1,025 pounds, up 25 pounds from last year but down 65 pounds from last month.

Milk production in the **20 major States** during February totaled 11.8 billion pounds, up 1.7 percent from February 2003. However, adjusting production

for the additional day due to the leap year causes February milk production to be down 1.8 percent on a per day basis. January revised production, at 12.5 billion pounds, was down 1.0 percent from January 2003. The January revision represented a decrease of 11 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,531 pounds for February, 42 pounds above February 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.72 million head, 91,000 head less than February 2003, but 4,000 head more than January 2004.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type		Feb. 2003	Feb. 2004	Feb. 04 % of Feb. 03
Egg Production				
Eggs Produced	(Million)	6,665	6,891	103
Average Layers	(000)	340,575	338,948	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers		1,957	2,033	104
Egg Type Hatchery				
Eggs Set Mar. 1	(000)	30,547	34,263	112
Chicks Hatched	(000)	29,988	32,078	107
Broiler Type Hatchery				
Eggs Set Mar. 1	(000)	630,187	647,596	103
Chicks Hatched	(000)	694,590	727,936	105

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>